



Culture & HERITAGE

NEWS UPDATE

Volume 6 Number 1

Mercer County Cultural and Heritage Commission

Spring 2007

“I’ll have what she’s having...” Dance Project



Photo: Elliot Gordon, ebgfox@comcast.net

The Dance Project concert is a showcase of dynamic New Jersey women honoring and empowering the female dancer and choreographer during Women’s History Month.

The Dance Department at the YWCA Princeton has initiated a group of women dancers who are living and addressing the question, “Where does all that lovely talent, artistry and intense training, which is required to become a dancer, go when she becomes, say, 40 or older, well beyond the typical lifespan of a professional dancer?”

A dancer’s career is relatively short. Injuries can debilitate a dancer, pregnancy and childbirth often change a woman’s body in ways that effect her dance career. Marriage and domestic responsibilities (often the role of women) can limit time spent on training and keeping the body fit for a dance career. Add age and the Western stigma that comes along with it and the dancer is faced with the reality that at a relatively young age, she must retire from her career whether she is ready to or not.

“I’ll have what she’s having...” dance project is a concert series which highlights women dancers and choreographers, all in their 40’s or beyond, all living in New Jersey, who were professional dancers in their “past” lives and all who are committed to continue dancing, choreographing and performing.

The project was founded in 2003 as a choreographer’s showcase by co-directors Christine Colosimo, Fara Lindsay, Linda Mannheim and Marie Alonzo Snyder. The pieces presented in this concert represent the women for who they are today as dancers. The concert is not about dance technique, although a defi-

nite display of talent will provide entertainment value. It is through dance that women give a voice to their experience and strength, their passion and vulnerability, their intellect, their relationships and most of all their love for dance.

“I’ll have what she’s having...” dance project is so much more than just a dance concert. It is an opportunity to redefine what dance is about for women dancers in their 40’s and beyond with all their layers of life experiences.

The mission of “I’ll have what she’s having...” dance project which parallel’s the mission of the YWCA, is to support, encourage and empower women dancers and choreographers within our community to continue their artistic growth beyond the recognized and accepted age associated with being a dancer. Historically, the YWCA has

drawn together members who strive to create opportunities for women’s growth and leadership. This dance project and performance opportunity is a great occasion for gathering and strengthening our community of local dance artists.

The group performs once a year to celebrate Women’s History Month. The title is taken from the famous diner scene in the film *When Harry Met Sally*. It was intended to act as a reminder that a sense of humor is one way for a women to face her many needs no matter what her age.

New artists are continually welcomed to be part of this supportive and noncompetitive environment. Participation can occur in two ways, either as a dancer or choreographer. There are four criteria by which applicants are reviewed, all women must: be over the age of 40; have professional dance experience; be NJ residents; and choreographers must show documentation of previous work with a video and will be accepted on a first come/first serve basis. Also, because this is a cooperative, each participating artist is expected to contribute her skill and talent to the technical or administrative aspects of the whole production.

This year’s “I’ll have what she’s having...” dance project performances are Saturday, March 10 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, March 11 at 2 p.m. at Rider University’s Yvonne Theater on 2083 Lawrenceville Road in Lawrenceville. Tickets range from \$15 to \$20. For more information, to make reservations or to become involved in future projects please call (609) 497-2100 ext. 332, or email ccolosimo@ywcaprinceton.org. (w)

From Coronation Mass to A Chorus Line

The Greater Trenton Choral Society (GTCS) is Mercer County’s second oldest arts group. It was formed in 1949 at the request of the Trenton Junior Chamber of Commerce as the Trenton Community Chorus and later became the Mercer County Chorus. In 1985 the name was changed to the Greater Trenton Choral Society to better reflect the more regional nature of its membership and audience. Throughout its 50-plus year history, the organization has provided quality choral music opportunities for its adult members and audiences.

Their repertoire has included performances of Handel’s *Messiah*, masses by Schubert, Mozart, Haydn, Puccini and Durufle, oratorios by Bach, Handel and Mendelsson, requiems by Mozart, Fauré, and Brahms, Bock’s Sacred Service, *King David*, works of Beethoven, Bernstein, Britton, Vivaldi, Saint Saens, and a wide variety of cultural and ethnic presentations.

In December 1998, the GTCS performed the oratorio *Abraham and Isaac*, written and conducted by New Jersey composer, Dr. Arthur Frank. More recent performances have included John Rutter’s *Requiem* and Vivaldi’s *Gloria*.

In addition to serious classical choral music, the Society performs pops-type concerts built around music of American composers, Broadway shows, spirituals. Concerts have been held at the Trenton War Memorial, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Trenton as well as many area churches and synagogues. For the past 2 years, performances and rehearsals have been at Abiding Presence Lutheran Church in Ewing because of its size and accessibility.

Membership consists of volunteers whose primary interest is the enhancement of the community through the art of music. While many of the singers in the organization are or have gone on to become music professionals, the majority of members are not professionals and most have not had formal voice training. They belong because they love to perform choral music and want to bring this music to the community. Membership is open to any area adult subject to only a simple audition. The 40-plus chorus is led by music director Joseph Pucciatti with the accompaniment of pianist Jo-Ann Rubay Sciarrotta.

The Greater Trenton Choral Society’s Spring Concert will feature Mozart’s *Coronation Mass* and medleys from *Brigadoon*, *My Fair Lady* and *A Chorus Line*. The concert on May 5 at 8 p.m. will be at Abiding Presence Lutheran Church at 2220 Pennington Road (Route 31) in Ewing. For tickets or more information, please call (609) 448-1775. (warp)

Spring Forward Weekend set for March

The Trenton Artists Workshop Association (TAWA) will present their fourth annual Spring Forward weekend of new art on March 24 and 25 at Ellarslie Mansion and ArtWorks.

Designed to highlight new art and to bring artists together to create new work and opportunities, Spring Forward was developed by TAWA in cooperation with Co-Works and the New Jersey State Museum.

Spring Forward opens on March 24 at Ellarslie Mansion with a 12:30 p.m. public reception. Writers from US One Poets and Ragged Sky Press will present readings at 1 p.m. Then at 2 p.m. Pulitzer Prize winning poet Paul Muldoon will read. The day will conclude with a 3:30 p.m. concert by internationally recognized pianist and Trenton native Orrin Evans and his trio. Mr. Evans will include a musical tribute to his father, late Trenton playwright Don Evans.

Paul Muldoon was born in Northern Ireland in 1951. He was educated in County Armagh and at the Queen's University of Belfast. He worked as a BBC radio and television producer, was Professor of Poetry at the University of Oxford and is currently a Howard G.B. Clark '21 Professor at Princeton University and Chair of the Princeton University Center for the Creative and Performing Arts. Mr. Muldoon received, among other major recognitions, a Pulitzer Prize in 2003 for *Moy Sand and Gravel*.

Pianist Orrin Evans' remarkable talent was nurtured by his mother, a classical singer. His formal study was at Philadelphia's Settlement School of Music under Charles Pettaway. He has been piano chair for saxophonist Bobby Watson and Charles Mingus Big Band. Besides recording and touring with many renown artists, he teaches middle school music and runs three jazz ensembles at the Germantown Friends School. He has taught piano, theory and an advanced jazz ensemble at the Settlement Mu-

sic School.

Spring Forward continues on March 25 at ArtWorks with an artists reception at 1 p.m., which includes the kickoff of a new city arts project for summer 2008. The New Jersey State Council on the Arts' Artists Service Coordinator Don Ehman will present a grant writing workshop. Visitors will have the opportunity to preview a new stage work, and a take a gallery tour with Mel Leipzig.

ArtWorks Gallery at 19 Everett Alley off Stockton Street in Trenton will feature an exhibition of new work by Mel Leipzig, celebrated New Jersey visual artist and Trenton resident.

Mr. Leipzig studied art at the Museum of Modern Art, Cooper Union, Yale University and Pratt Institute. Among his recognitions are a Fulbright Travelling Fellowship, Louis Comfort Tiffany Award, and one of the last individual artist grants from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).

Mr. Leipzig has had extensive shows at museums and institutions including the National Portrait Gallery, Washington, DC and has works in numerous permanent collections including the New Jersey State Museum, Cooper-Hewitt Museum, Yale Art Gallery, and The White House Collection.

A founding member of the Trenton Artists Workshop Association, Mr. Leipzig continues to teach art at Mercer County Community College after 39 years.

Trenton Artists Workshop Association is a



Pulitzer Prize winning poet Paul Muldoon will read at Ellarslie Mansion on March 24.

nonprofit organization founded in 1979 to promote the arts in the greater Trenton Area. Membership boasts over 350 professional artists, art educators, art students, and patrons of the arts. TAWA served as a catalyst for several city festivals, which brought together regional musicians, writers and theater artists, and assisted in the creation of the city's first professional theater. TAWA provides annual summer exhibitions at The Trenton City Museum at Ellarslie Mansion in Cadwalader Park.

For more information, please email springforward@hotmail.com.

Dress Code Explores Social and Emotional Impact of Clothing

Dress Code is a group exhibition of works by three international emerging artists that emphasizes the social and emotional impact of clothing. Since the relationship between the body and the public sphere is mediated by clothes, the exhibition seeks to understand clothing as a vehicle for generating meaning, situating the body as part of a larger social construction.

The projects in Dress Code use clothing to examine the construction of identity within specific cultural frameworks like consumer and corporate culture, gender stereotypes, and a location where fears and anxieties are both a personal and a collective experience. The artists use humor and irony to commu-



Elke Lehmann's wearable art.

nicate these complex social issues to audiences mostly unaware that they are part of an artistic project.

The projects interrupt traditional expectations of what art is, and use more contemporary strategies like performance, public intervention, displacement, ready-made objects, as well as subversion and appropriation of mainstream media, commercial exchange, commodity objects and advertising.

Elke Lehmann teaches 3D Design and Conceptual Art at TCNJ and produces wearable objects that integrate ready-made tops with a signature shopping bags. She employed various strategies to insert each megabrand stores' shopping bag, even a receipt and change, into a garment, creating pouches, sleeves, skirts, hoods and adjustable design elements. She amplifies consumer culture's emphasis on packaging, brand names and logos and ultimately issues of waste and recycling.

Jillian Macdonald began staging public intervention performances one year after 9/11. Participants lent her an article of clothing with personal significance. She spoke with them about their fears and anxieties, then translated those emotions into personal protection messages, which she embroidered inside the clothing, to counter those fears.

Momoyo Torimitsu performs dressed as a nurse accompanying a crawling businessman robot. She uses the stereotypical image of a Japanese businessman as a corporate soldier to let him crawl on the streets of big cities all over the world. Reactions range from smiles and amusement to anger, to worries from people who took him for a real person. How people react to the stereotype reveals their own cultural preconceptions.

The College of New Jersey Art Gallery in Holman Hall at 2000 Pennington Avenue in Ewing will host Dress Code through March 28, with an Artists panel discussion on March 21 at 7 p.m. The Gallery is open Monday to Friday from noon to 3 p.m., Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 3 p.m. For more information, please call (609) 771-2198 or visit www.tcnj.edu. (w)

It Won't Mean a Thing if You Don't Come to Swing

The Friends of the New Jersey State Museum will be hosting a Swing Party at the War Memorial in Trenton on Friday, March 30. Not your typical dinner dance, a swing band will perform while dancers from area swing clubs fill the dance floor, providing lessons for swing novices. Festive swing era dress is encouraged!

Guests will be escorted in vintage cars from the War Memorial to the Galleries at 225 for a private viewing of the **Swing!** exhibition from 5:30 to 7 p.m. A silent auction will be open for bidding from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. and will benefit the **Swing!** exhibition.

Swing! exhibition opened in the Galleries at 225 West State Street on February 9 and runs through May 5. The Gallery is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, please call (609) 292-6464 or visit www.state.nj.us/state/museum. (wv)

For reservations and information about the Swing Party, please call (609) 394-5310. Tickets are \$125. (wv)

Here's the Scoop

Trenton Education Dance Institute (TEDI) employs a unique pedagogy created 30 years ago by ballet legend Jacques d'Amboise. It is based on a belief that complex arts disciplines have a special ability to encourage curiosity, determination and eagerness to tackle challenges. The program uses vigorous physical and cerebral challenges to teach students that persistence, encouragement and hard work make personal excellence achievable. TEDI classes are a regular part of the school day for fifth grade students in Luis Munoz-Rivera and Hedgepeth/Williams Schools. All students participate, regardless of personal challenges.

TEDI's Event of the Year, "**Here's the Scoop**" will be presented at the Patriots Theater at the War Memorial on Thursday, May 24 at 7 p.m. Preferred seating gala tickets are \$30 and include admission to the post performance reception honoring Jacques d'Amboise. For more information and tickets, please call (609) 638-1556 or email TEDIkid@aol.com.



Ballet legend Jacques D'Amboise leads TEDI students in a challenging and enthusiastic class. photo by Victoria Yakota

Dear Friends,

Though it may seem as though the first snow has just fallen, spring is right around the corner. With the warmer weather come many opportunities to enjoy the rich cultural traditions of Mercer County. From gardening workshops to dance lessons to art exhibits, our towns offer something for every taste.

I encourage everyone to try something new this spring. Even if you have lived in the County for decades, the tremendous creative energy of Mercer residents guarantees that there will always be something novel just around the corner for you to enjoy. Treat your ears to a poetry reading in one of the County's many coffee shops; sample new fare at a food or wine tasting; catch a classic film at one of our libraries; or tour the breathtaking gardens at Morven or Drumthwacket with a horticultural expert.

However you choose to spend your leisure time this spring, I wish you a wonderful season.



Sincerely,

Brian M. Hughes
County Executive

Finding Funding for Accessibility Projects

In those times when economic resources are stretched, budgets are lean, it becomes necessary to prioritize important safety, accessibility, and maintenance projects. Then with careful planning and identification of external funding sources the likelihood of completing those projects increases significantly.

Heavy competition for grant funds, donations and fundraising monies makes it imperative to develop a strong case statement for your project, program, or activity. Involving accessibility in the initial discussions and planning stages can save time and money. Paying for one set of plans that are in compliance is more cost-effective than having to modify a preexisting plan later.

Workshops on grant writing and fundraising are available in the community as well as online. Information obtained and skills learned can be crucial when filling out a grant application or organizing a fund-raising effort.

Often local businesses and manufacturers provide support to local organizations through in-kind contributions or donations of materials. Banks and financial institutions may provide support in exchange for public recognition of their donations. This is one way they give back to the community that supports them.

Partnerships with local organizations, schools and civic clubs looking for philanthropic causes could provide funding sources as well networking opportunities to advance not only funding, but possible volunteer recruitment.

Funding resource information is available from a variety of sources such as:

- Disability Publications and Newsletters
- University Grants and Contracts Offices
- State and National Funding Directories, available at the Reference Desk in local libraries.
- National Guide to Funding in Arts and Culture

The Internet is a vast resource.

- Fundsnet Online Services www.fundsnet.com
- The Foundation Center Finding Funders section www.fdncenter.org
- The Research Associates Grant Experts www.grantexperts.com
- The Disability Compliance Bulletin www.lrp.com; Disability Funding News www.cdpublications.com.

Volunteers offer a valuable service through the donation of their time. Organizations such as Americorps at www.americorp.com and TelecomPioneers at www.telecompioneers.org provides contact information for various regional chapters all over the country. Another source of volunteers is college students whose majors often require service hours to complete a degree. Contacting the advisor at the local university can be an effective method of attracting volunteers.

Local retailers such as Home Depot at www.homedepotfoundation.org and Lowe's at www.lowes.com are a good source of specific materials and possibly labor for small construction projects. Other goods and services might be available through chain corporations such as Wal-Mart at www.walmart.com, Target at www.target.com, KMart at www.kmart.com, or even your locally owned hardware store. Home Depot Foundation and Target also offer grants and Target Volunteers are involved in many community projects all over the country.

Whether its money, volunteers or materials your organization needs, keep in mind the importance of the project. Having a strong case statement is critical to convincing potential donors of the importance of your particular project over those of the competition. Funding resources are available and attainable with a little planning.



Calendar of EVENTS

The Mercer County Culture and Heritage Commission cannot be responsible for errors or omissions. Call ahead to confirm times and prices. For an expanded listing, visit www.mercercounty.org/CH/nl.htm. Deadline for Summer issue, which covers June, July and August is April 6, 2007.

Art Exhibits

Abstract Expressionism to Photo Realism, March 1-April 5, Rider University Art Gallery, Bart Luedeke Center, 2083 Lawrenceville Road. Reception March 1, 5-7 p.m.; gallery talk March 8, 7 p.m. (609) 896-5588; www.rider.edu/arts. (w)

Peter Callas & Margaret Kennard Johnson Pottery, Paintings, and Prints, March 3-April 22, Ellarslie, Trenton City Museum, Cadwalader Park. Reception March 10, 7-9 p.m. (609) 989-3632; www.ellarslie.org. (w)

Dangerous Women II, March 5-April 6, MCCC Art Gallery, 1200 Old Trenton Road, West Windsor. Reception March 7, 5-7:30 p.m. (609) 570-3589; www.mccc.edu. (w)

After Utopia by Eldor Mehilli, March 11-April 27, Bernstein Gallery, Robertson Hall, Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University Campus. Discussion March 13, 4:30 p.m.; reception 6 p.m. (609) 258-2222; www.wvs.princeton.edu/events/gallerysch.

Garden State Watercolor Society, March 15-April 15, Johnson Education Center, One Preservation Place, Princeton. Reception March 15, 2-5 p.m. (609) 924-4646.

Tasha O'Neill & Vivian Abbott photographs, March 16-April 15, Gallery 14, 14 Mercer Street, Hopewell. Reception March 16, 6-9 p.m.; meet the photographers March 18, 1-3 p.m. (609) 333-8511; www.photosgallery14.com.

Pop Art, March 24-Aug. 12, Princeton University Art Museum, Princeton University Campus. (609) 258-3788; www.princetonartmuseum.org. (wv)

Dress Code, through March 28, College of New Jersey, Art Gallery, Holman Hall, 2200 Pennington Road, Ewing. (609) 771-2198.

Friends for the Marsh photography, March 23-April 22, Ellarslie, Trenton City Museum, Cadwalader Park. Reception March 23, 7-9 p.m. (609) 989-3632; www.ellarslie.org. (wv)

Matthew Day Jackson, sculpture & paintings, March 20-April 20, CAPPs, Mariboe Gallery, Peddie School, Ward Avenue, Hightstown. Reception and gallery talk March 30, 6:30-8 p.m. (609) 490-7550; www.peddiedoe.org.capps. (wv)

Lewis School Exhibition, April 7-28, Arts Council of Princeton ConTEMPORARY Gallery, Princeton Shopping Center, 301 North Harrison Street. Reception April 7, 9 a.m. (609) 924-8777. (wv)

Art Student Exhibition, April 11-25, College of New Jersey, Art Gallery, Holman Hall, 2000 Pennington Avenue, Ewing. Reception April 11, 5-7 p.m. (609) 771-2198; www.tcnj.edu. (wv)

Spring Show, April 13-June 1, Gallery 125, 125 South Warren Street, Trenton. Reception April 13, 5-9 p.m. (609) 989-9119; www.gallery125.com.

ArtFirst! Exhibit, April 14-May 18, Princeton Medical Center, 253 Witherspoon Street, Princeton. (609) 497-4211. (wv)

Joanne Tully & Marty Schwartz Coney Island photographs, April 20-May 27, Gallery 14, 14 Mercer Street, Hopewell. Reception April 20 6-9 p.m.; meet the photographers April 22, 1-3 p.m. (609) 333-8511; www.photosgallery14.com.

Art Students Show, April 23-May 11, MCCC Art Gallery, 1200 Old Trenton Road, West Windsor. Reception April 25, 5-7:30 p.m. (609) 570-3589; www.mccc.edu. (w)

BFA Thesis Exhibition, April 27-May 11, College of New Jersey, Art Gallery, Holman Hall, 2000 Pennington Avenue, Ewing. Reception April 27, 5:30-7 p.m. (609) 771-2198; www.tcnj.edu. (wv)

Art and Ritual of Ancient Southern Mexico, through April 28, Princeton University Art Museum, Princeton University Campus. (609) 258-3788; www.princetonartmuseum.org. (w)

Israeli and Palestinian Poster Art, April 28-May 18, Bernstein Gallery, Robertson Hall, Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University Campus. (609) 258-2222; www.wvs.princeton.edu/events/gallerysch.html.

Ellarslie Open XXV featuring the Salon des Refusés, April 28-June 24, Ellarslie, Trenton City Museum, Cadwalader Park. Reception May 5, 7-9 p.m. (609) 989-3632; www.ellarslie.org. (wv)

Focus on Sculpture photographs, through April 29, Grounds For Sculpture, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. Gallery talk Jan. 27, 2 p.m. (609) 586-0616; www.groundsfor sculpture.org. (wv)

Sculpture: Manuel Neri, Stephen Siegel and Outstanding Student Work, through April 29, Grounds for Sculpture, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. (609) 689-1089; www.groundsfor sculpture.org. (wv)

Roosevelt Arts Weekend, May 4, 7-9 p.m.; May 5-6, noon-5 p.m., Roosevelt Arts Project, Eleanor Gallery, Roosevelt. \$5-\$10. (609) 443-4421.

Swing!, through May 5, Galleries at 225 West State Street, Trenton. (609) 292-6464; www.state.nj.us/state/museum. (wv)

Richard Jolley glass sculpture, May 13-Sept. 23, Grounds For Sculpture, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. (609) 689-1089; www.groundsfor sculpture.org.

Susan Hockaday photographs, May 19-Aug. 31, Bernstein Gallery, Robertson Hall, Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University Campus. (609) 258-2222.

Botanical Illustrations, May 26-Sept. 1, New Jersey State Museum, 225 West State Street, Trenton. (609) 292-6464. (wv)

Summer Show, June 8-Aug. 3, Gallery 125, 125 South Warren Street, Trenton. Tue-Fri noon-6 p.m. Sat 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Reception, June 8, 5-9 p.m. (609) 989-9119; www.gallery125.com.

Olana Landscapes by Frederic Edwin Church, through June 10, Princeton University Art Museum, Tue-Sat 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun 1-5 p.m. (609) 258-3788; www.princetonartmuseum.org. (wv)

Art Lectures / Workshops

Collection Highlights Tour, Sat-Sun, March-May, 2 p.m., Princeton University Art Museum, Princeton University campus. (609) 258-3788; www.princetonartmuseum.org. (wv)

Mesopotamian Visual Aesthetics of Power, March 6, 5 p.m., Princeton University Campus, McCormick Hall. Presented by Institute for Advanced Study. (609) 734-8175.

Thomas Porett, From View Camera to Streaming Video, March 9, 7 p.m., Grounds For Sculpture, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. Register (609) 689-1089; www.groundsfor sculpture.org. (wv)

Veronese's Allegories of Love, April 7, 5 p.m., Institute for Advanced, Wolfensohn Hall, Einstein Drive, Princeton. (609) 734-8175.

Glass Sculptor Richard Jolley Gallery Walk, May 11, 7 p.m., Grounds For Sculpture, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. Register (609) 689-1089; www.groundsfor sculpture.org. (wv)

GFS Workshops

Sally Davidson Workshop, April 12, 19, 26 & May 3, 10, 10:30 a.m. SLR or digital camera required. \$65-\$75.

Floral Abstraction Design, April 14, 21, 28 & May 5, 10:30 a.m. \$205-\$210.

Tots on Tour, March 17, April 21, May 19, 11 a.m.-noon. Ages 3-5 with adult.

Stone Carving, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. \$235-\$250.

Collage, March 7, 14, 21, 28, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$70-\$80.

Make Your Own Toys, March 31, 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. \$10-\$12. Ages 6-9.

Create Paper Mâché Bugs, March 31, 12:45 p.m.-2 p.m. \$10-\$12. Ages 6-9.

William King-type Sculpture, March 31, 2:30 p.m.-3:45 p.m. \$10-\$12. Ages 6-9.

Create Groovy Gothic Gargoyles, March 31, 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. \$10-\$12. Ages 10-14.

Colored Wire Sculpture, March 31, 12:45 p.m. \$10-\$12. Ages 10-14.

Felt-Making, March 31, 2:30 p.m. \$10-\$12. Ages 10-14.

Grounds For Sculpture, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. Register (609) 689-1089; www.groundsfor sculpture.org. (wv)

Benefits

Les Ballets Trockadero, March 3, 6 p.m. Matthews Theater, 91 University Place, Princeton. Benefits Young Audiences of New Jersey. Register (609) 243-9000. (wauw)

MCCC Scholarship Benefit Gala, March 10, 6 p.m., Hyatt, Carnegie Center, Route 1, Princeton. (609) 570-3607. (wv)

Fashion Show, March 11, noon, The Contemporary, 176 West State Street, Trenton. \$40. (609) 259-0021.

Swing! Party, March 30, 6 p.m., Trenton War Memorial, Memorial Drive. Benefits New Jersey State Museum **Swing!** exhibition. \$125. Register (609) 394-5310.

ArtFirst! Preview Party, April 14, 6-9 p.m., Auxiliary of Princeton Medical Center, 253 Witherspoon Street. (609) 497-4211. (wv)

Gourmet Food Tasting, April 23, 6-9:30 p.m., Westin Hotel, Forrestal Village, Plainsboro. Benefits HomeFront, Isles, Mercer Street Friends, Trenton Area Soup Kitchen. \$95. (609) 924-3663. (wv)

A.R.T. Exhibition, April 28, 6 p.m., Hyatt, Carnegie Center, Route 1 North, West Windsor. Benefits A.R.T. Realization. Register (609) 452-2088. (wv)

Torah Fund Dinner, May 6, 5-8:30 p.m., United Jewish Federation, Adath Israel, 1958 Lawrenceville Road, Lawrenceville. \$40. (609) 896-5345.

Gala, May 19, 6:30 pm, Drumthwacket, 354 Stockton Street, Princeton. Benefits Princeton Symphony Orchestra. \$175- \$1,000 (609) 497-0020; www.princetonsymphony.org.

June Fete, June 8-9, Princeton University Football Stadium, Faculty Road. Benefits Princeton Medical Center. (609) 497-4069; www.princetonhcs.org.

Dance

Alborada Dance, March 1, 8 p.m., Passage Theater, Mill Hill Playhouse, Front and Montgomery streets, Trenton. \$20. (609) 392-0766; www.passagetheatre.org. (wv)

Rider Dances, March 3, 8 p.m., March 4, 3 p.m., The Yvonne Theater, Rider University, 2083 Lawrence Road, Lawrenceville. \$15. (609) 896-5303; www.rider.edu. (wv)

Dance China New York, March 4, 1 & 3 p.m., Millstone River School, 75 Grovers Mill Road, Plainsboro. \$6-\$7. (609) 919-1982; www.westwindsorarts.org. (wv)

YWCA Dance Project Concert, March 10, 8 p.m., March 11, 2 p.m., Yvonne Theater, Rider University, 2083 Lawrenceville Road. \$20. (609) 497-2100, ext. 332. (wv)

Student Dance Thesis, March 30-31, 8 p.m., Matthews Acting Studio, 185 Nassau Street, Princeton. Princeton University Theater & Dance Program. (609) 258-1742.

Broadway Repertoire Workshop, April 14, 3:15-4:30 p.m. Pennington Dance studio, Cyrus Lodge, 131 Burd Street. For ages 12 and up. \$25. (609) 737-7596; www.penningtondance.com.

Roxey Ballet: Mowgli & Sleeping Beauty, April 28-29, 2 p.m., Villa Victoria School, 376 West Upper Ferry Road, Ewing. Register (609) 397-7616, ext. 807. (wv)

Pennington Dance Company at Greenwood House, April 29, 2-2:45 pm., 53 Walter Street, Ewing. (609) 737-7596; www.penningtondance.com.

Pennington Dance Company, May 19, noon, Main Street & Delaware Avenue. (609) 737-7596; www.penningtondance.com.

Pennington Dance Multi-Cultural Performance, June 3, 1-3 p.m., Patriots Theater, Trenton War Memorial, Memorial Drive. \$20. (609) 737-7596; www.penningtondance.com.

MDE Unleashed, June 9, 8 p.m.; June 10, 2 p.m., Kelsey Theatre, MCCC, 1200 Old Trenton Road, West Windsor. \$10-\$12. (609) 584-9222; www.kelseyatmccc.org. (wv)

Dancing

Scottish Country Dance Classes, Mondays, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Meadow Lakes Retirement Community, Etra Road (Rte. 571), Hightstown. \$3. (609) 936-0891; www.rscds-nj.org.

Princeton Country Dancers, Wednesdays, 7:40 p.m.; second & fourth Saturdays, 8 p.m. Suzanne Patterson Center, Monument Drive, Princeton. \$7. (609) 924-6763.

Ballroom Lesson & Swing Workshop, March 23, April 27, May 25, 7 p.m., Paula Ludo's Ballroom, 23 Hankins Road, East Windsor. \$15/\$20. Register (908) 534-0004.

Yoga Dance, March 30, 6 p.m.; **Belly Dance**, April 22, 2 p.m., One Yoga Center, 405 Route 130, East Windsor. \$20. Register (609) 918-0963.

Film

Award-Winning Films, second Thursday each month, 7 p.m., Lawrence HQ Branch Library, 2751 Brunswick Pike. Register (609) 882-9246; www.mcl.org. (wv)

Heritage & Holiday Activities

Thunderbird Dancers, March 11, 1 & 3 p.m., Millstone River School, 75 Grovers Mill Road, Plainsboro. \$6-\$7. (609) 919-1982; www.westwindsorarts.org. (wv)
Breakfast with the Easter Bunny, March 16, Noon & 2 p.m., Quaker Bridge Mall Center Court. (609) 799-8177. (wv)
Mexico Beyond Mariachi, March 18, 1 & 3 p.m., Millstone River School, 75 Grovers Mill Road, Plainsboro. West \$6-\$7. (609) 919-1982; www.westwindsorarts.org. (wv)
St. Patrick's Day Parade, March 10, 12:30 p.m., Olden, Hamilton, Chestnut avenues, Trenton. (609) 586-3851.
Earth Day, April 21, 10 a.m., Mercer County Park, Skating Rink, West Windsor. (609) 989-6518; www.mercercounty.org.
Spring Fun Fair, May 5, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Princeton Shopping Center, 301 North Harrison Street. (609) 921-6234.

Historical House Tours

Abbott House, weekends, noon-5 p.m., 2200 Kuser Road, Hamilton. (609) 585-1686.
Bainbridge House, Tues-Sun, noon-4 p.m., 158 Nassau Street, Princeton. Historical Society of Princeton headquarters. (609) 921-6748.
Brearley House Tour, first Saturday each month, 10 a.m.-noon, Lawrence Historical Society, Meadow Lane. (609) 895-1728.
Drumthwacket, Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., 354 Stockton Street, Princeton. \$5. Reservations (609) 683-0591.
Morven, Wed-Fri, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Sat-Sun, noon-4 p.m., 65 Stockton Street, Princeton. \$4-\$5. (609) 924-8144.
Old Barracks Museum, daily, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Barrack Street, Trenton. \$4-\$6. (609) 396-1776; www.barracks.org.
Schenck House, second Sunday each month, 1-4 p.m., Historical Society of West Windsor, 50 Southfield Road. (609) 799-1278.
Trenton Battle Monument, weekends, 1-4 p.m., 348 North Warren Street, Trenton. (609) 737-0623.
Wicoff House, first & third Sunday each month, 2-4:30 p.m., Plainsboro Museum, 641 Plainsboro Road. (609) 799-9040.
William Trent House, daily 12:30-4 p.m., closed holidays, 15 Market Street, Trenton. \$1-\$2.50. (609) 989-3027; www.williamtrenthouse.org.
Historic Princeton Walking Tour, Sunday, 2-4 p.m., Bainbridge House, 158 Nassau Street. \$4-\$7. (609) 921-6748.
Princeton University campus tour, Art Museum, Chapel, FitzRandolph Gateway, Museum of National History, and Nassau Hall. (609) 258-3603.

History Activities

Princeton Cemetery Tours, Witherspoon and Wiggins Streets. Appointments (609) 924-1369.
Colonial Kids activities & craft, weekends, 12:30-2 p.m., William Trent House, 15 Market Street, Trenton. \$1-\$2.50. (609) 989-3027.
Hayrides, March 24, **Potato Planting**,

April 28, **Sheep Shearing**, May 5, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Howell Living History Farm, Valley Road, Titusville (609) 737-3299.
NJ State Fairgrounds Celebration, April 29, 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Grounds For Sculpture, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. (609) 689-1089. (wv)
Four Views of Trenton Bus Tours, April 28, 8:30 a.m., The Contemporary, 176 West State Street, Trenton. \$45. (609) 392-9727.
Spirit of the Jerseys History Fair, May 5, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Washington Crossing State Park, Routes 29 & 546, Titusville. (609) 737-9303; www.njhistoryfair.org.

Kuser Farm Mansion

Irish Music, March 13, 7 p.m.
18th Century Woman video, March 19, 7 p.m.
La Belle Epoque video, March 21, 7 p.m.
Famous NJ Women, Russell Roberts, March 28, 7 p.m.
Hamilton on the Net, Tom Glover, April 10, 7 p.m.
1860's Women's Lifestyles, Jane P. Estes, April 11, 7 p.m.
Totally Titanic Tour, April 12, 6-7:30 p.m.
Sporting Life, Russell Roberts, April 17, 7 p.m.
Turn of the Century Music, April 18, 7 p.m.
Corner Store, Tom Glover, April 19, 7 p.m.
George Rodgers Clark, by Russell Roberts, April 25, 7 p.m.
Kuser Farm, Tom & Bud Glover, April 30, 7 p.m.
Pets of the Past, Jane P. Estes, May 2, 7 p.m.
Kuser School Memories, Tom, Len & Bud Glover, May 8, 7 p.m.
Hamilton High School Experiences, Tom, Len & Bud Glover, May 15, 7 p.m.
Kuser Farm & Family In Print, May 21, 7 p.m.
Postcard Auto Ads, May 21, 8 p.m.
The Malt Shop, Tom Glover, May 23, 7 p.m.
Kuser Mansion is a Hamilton Township facility located at 290 Newkirk Avenue, inside Kuser Farm Park. Advance reservations required. (609) 890-3630.

Literary Events

Scrabble, March 2, April 6, May 4, 6:30 p.m., Classics, 117 South Warren Street, Trenton. (609) 394-8400.
Noel Ignatiev, author, The Irish and Whiteness, March 2, 4:30 p.m., The Fund for Irish Studies, Stewart Film Theater, 185 Nassau Street, Princeton. (609) 258-1742.
American Sign Language Story Hours, March 6, **Elana's Ears** by Ruth Roth Lowell; April 17, **Horton Hatches the Egg** by Dr. Seuss; May 15, **Casey at the Bat** by Ernest L. Thayer, 10 a.m., NJ Library For The Blind and Handicapped, 2300 Stuyvesant Avenue, Trenton. (800) 792-8322; www.njlbh.org. (WATSPV)
Reading Series, Darryl Pinckney & Colson Whitehead, March 7; **Percival Everett & Jonathan Lethem**, March 28; **Kathleen Jamie & Don Paterson**, April 4; **Hans Magnus Enzensberger**, April 11; **Student reading**, May 2, 4:30 p.m., Princeton University Program in Creative Writing, Stewart Film Theater, 185 Nassau Street, Princeton. (609) 258-4712.
Poets read: Michael Longley & Medbh McGuckian, March 9; **Vona Groarke & Conor O'Callaghan**, April 20, 4:30 p.m., Fund for Irish Studies, Stewart Film Theater, 185 Nassau Street, Princeton. (609) 258-1742.
Poetry Slam hosted by slammaster Postmidnight, March 9, 7:30 p.m., Arts Council of Princeton, Princeton Shopping Center, 301 N. Harrison Street. \$6. Register (609) 924-8777.

Poets Read, March 10, April 14, May 12, noon-2 p.m., Classics, 117 South Warren Street, Trenton. (609) 394-8400.
Delaware Valley Poets & Open Mic, second Monday, 8 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3535 US Route 1 South, Princeton. (609) 716-1570; www.delawarevalleypoets.com. (wv)
Read & Explore, March 13, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Terhune Orchards, 330 Cold Soil Road, Lawrenceville. \$5. (609) 924-2310.
Readings Over Coffee, second Wednesday, 10:30 a.m., Princeton Public Library, 65 Witherspoon Street. (609) 924-8822; www.princetonlibrary.org. (wv)
Poetry Workshop, third Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Delaware Valley Poets, Lawrence Public Library, Darrah Lane. (609) 882-9246. (wv)
Hermine Pinson, poet, March 15, 8 p.m., Passage Theater, Mill Hill Playhouse, Front and Montgomery streets, Trenton. (609) 392-0766; www.passagetheatre.org. (wv)
Book Sale, March 21-25, 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Princeton Day School, Great Road. Preview March 21, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., \$20. (609) 921-7479.
Socrates Cafe, March 27, April 24, May 29, 7 p.m., Princeton Public Library, 65 Witherspoon Street. (609) 924-9529. (wv)
Book Sale, April 3-8, West Windsor Library, 333 North Post Road. Opens April 3-8, 6-9 p.m., \$10-\$25. (609) 987-9644; www.mcl.org.
Cool Women Poetry, April 11, 8 p.m.; April 25, 7:30 p.m., Princeton Public Library, 65 Witherspoon Street. (609) 924-9529.
Salvatore A. Buttaci & Poets of Social Conscience, April 14, 2-4 p.m., Trenton Public Library, 120 Academy Street. DOE registry no. 5339-2 hours. \$10. Register (609) 882-4784; luciakalt@aol.com. (wv)
Cool Women Live the Metaphor, May 20, 3 p.m., Grounds for Sculpture, 18 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton. \$7-\$8. (609) 689-1089; www.groundsforsculpture.org.

Musical Performances

Piano Teachers' Forum, March 2, April 6, May 4, 9:30 a.m., Jacobs Music, Route 1, Lawrence. \$10. (609) 921-1510.
Turandot, March 4, 3 p.m., New Jersey Opera Theater, Matthews Theater, 91 University Place, Princeton. \$15-\$90. (609) 258-2787. (WALV)
For Lost Words electronic sonic symphony, March 4, 3 p.m., March 24, 8 p.m., Passage Theater, Mill Hill Playhouse, Front and Montgomery streets, Trenton. \$20. (609) 392-0766; www.passagetheatre.org. (wv)
Todd Conner, harpist, March 9, 8 p.m., Passage Theater, Mill Hill Playhouse, Front and Montgomery streets, Trenton. \$20. (609) 392-0766; www.passagetheatre.org. (wv)
Neshama Carlebach, March 10, 8:30 p.m., Beth El Synagogue, 50 Maple Stream Road, East Windsor. \$36. (609) 443-4454.
Clipper Erickson, pianist, March 11, 3 p.m., Steinway Musical Society, Jacobs Music, 2540 Brunswick Pike, Lawrenceville. \$15. (609) 434-0222.
Princeton Recorder Society, March 13, April 10, May 8, 7 p.m., Kingston Presbyterian Church, Main Street. (908) 874-5267.
Nassau at Six Concert Series, March 18, April 15, 6 p.m., Nassau Presbyterian Church, 61 Nassau Street, Princeton. \$5. (609) 924-0103.
Gospel Concert, March 25, 3 p.m., Trenton City Museum, Cadwalader Park. (609) 989-3632; www.ellarslie.org. (wv)
Violin Concert, March 25, 3:30 p.m., Church of Saint Ann, 1253 Lawrence Road, Lawrenceville. \$25. (609) 882-6491.
Exit 9 Percussion group, March 25, 1 & 3 p.m., Millstone River School, 75 Grovers Mill Road, Plainsboro. \$6-\$7. (609) 919-

1982; www.westwindsorarts.org. (wv)
Hopewell Valley Chorus, March 25, 3:30 p.m., Washington Crossing Unitarian Church, 268 Route 546, Titusville. Features and benefits Trenton Children's Chorus. (609) 737-3177.
Trio Solisti with Alan Kaye, clarinet, March 30-31, 8 p.m., Institute for Advanced Study, Wolfensohn Hall, Einstein Drive, Princeton. Register (609) 734-8228.
Jane Austen Era Music & Dance, March 31, 7:30 p.m., Unitarian Church of Princeton, Route 206, Cherry Hill Road. Le Triomphe de l'amour. \$5-\$18. (609) 252-0522; www.triomphe baroque.org. (wv)
Chu-Fang Huang, March 31, 8 p.m., CAPPS, Mount-Burke Theater, Peddie School, Ward Avenue, Hightstown. \$20. (609) 490-7550; www.peddieschool.org/capps.
75th Anniversary Celebration, April 1, 4 p.m., Patriots Theatre, Trenton War Memorial, Memorial Drive. \$20-\$40. Greater Trenton Symphony Orchestra. (609) 396-5522. (WPBV)
Spring Workshop, April 14, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Princeton Recorder Society, All Saints Church, Terhune Road, Princeton. (908) 874-5267.
Rigoletto, April 20, 8 p.m.; April 22, 3 p.m., Patriots Theatre, Trenton War Memorial, Memorial Drive. Boheme Opera production. \$28-\$68. (609) 581-7200.
Rider Band & Choir, April 23, 7 p.m., The Yvonne Theater, Rider University, 2083 Lawrence Road, Lawrenceville. (609) 896-5303. (wv)
Voices Chorale Brahms Requiem, April 28, 8 p.m., St. Paul Roman Catholic Church, 214 Nassau Street, Princeton. \$10-\$30. (609) 637-9383; www.voiceschorale.org.
Slava! The Gloria of Slavic Music, April 29, 4 p.m., Richardson Auditorium, Princeton University Campus. \$38-\$45. (609) 683-5122. (wv)
The Heat is On, Quinn Lemley portrays Rita Hayworth, April 29, 2 p.m., CAPPS, Mount-Burke Theater, Peddie School, Ward Avenue, Hightstown. \$20. (609) 490-7550; www.peddieschool.org/capps. (wv)
Hopewell Valley Chorus American Cappella Concert, May 4, 8 p.m., Pennington Presbyterian Church, 13 South Main Street. \$7-\$12. (609) 397-1619.
Greater Trenton Choral Society Concert, May 5, 8 p.m., Abiding Presence Lutheran Church, 2220 Pennington Road, Ewing. (609) 448-1775. (wv)
Musicale, May 6, 3 p.m., Steinway Musical Society, Jacobs Music, 2540 Brunswick Pike, Lawrenceville. (609) 434-0222.
Ministry Spring Concert, May 6, 3:30 p.m., Church of Saint Ann, 1253 Lawrence Road, Lawrenceville. (609) 882-6491.
Voices Family Concert, June 11, 7:30 p.m., Music Together, 225 Pennington-Hopewell Road, Hopewell. \$5-\$20. (609) 637-9383; www.voiceschorale.org.

Jazz/Blues/Folk Music

Cuartetango String Quartet, May 19, 8 p.m., CAPPS, Mount-Burke Theater, Peddie School, Hightstown. \$20. (609) 490-7550; www.peddieschool.org/capps. (wv)
Taylor Elgsti and Julian Lage, March 2, 8 p.m., CAPPS, Mount-Burke Theater, Peddie School, Ward Avenue, Hightstown. Pre-concert chat 7 p.m. \$15. (609) 490-7550; www.peddieschool.org/capps. (wv)
Rachel Price Quartet, April 13, 8 p.m., CAPPS, Mount-Burke Theater, Peddie School, Ward Avenue, Hightstown. Pre-concert chat 7 p.m. \$15. (609) 490-7550.
Dubliners Concert, March 3; **Siora Duo**, March 17; **An Olde Country Dance Evening**, April 14; **Peter Donnelly**, May 19, 7 p.m., Salon 33, 33 Chestnut Street, Princeton. \$10. Register (609) 924-7955.

Princeton Folk Music Society, Bryan Bowers, March 16; **Brian Peters**, April 20; **Sons of the Never Wrong**, May 18, 8:15 p.m., Christ Congregation Church, 55 Walnut Lane, Princeton. \$15. (609) 799-0944. **Concerts at the Crossing, Tracey Grammer & Amy Speace**, March 10; **Neil Young Tribute**, March 24; **Richard Shindell**, April 21, 8 p.m., Unitarian Church, 268 Route 546, Titusville. \$20. (609) 406-1424. **Wenonah Brooks: Songs For My Children**, May 6, 7 p.m., Off-Broadstreet Theatre, 5 South Greenwood Avenue, Hopewell. \$25-\$30. (609) 883-3612. **Tia Fuller Jazz**, March 3, 3-7 p.m. The Candlelight, 24 Passaic Street, Trenton. (609) 695-9612. **The Frantic**, March 3, 8 p.m., The 449 Room, 449 South Broad, Trenton. \$5. (609) 989-7777. **Eric Alexander & John Swana**, March 9, 5:30-9 p.m., Gallery 125. 125 South Warren Street, Trenton. (609) 989-9119. **Spinjazz Sessions**, March 10, 7:30 p.m., Arts Council of Princeton, Princeton Shopping Center 301 North Harrison Street. \$6. Register (609) 924-8777. (wv) **Emergenza Music Festival**, March 8-10, 8 p.m., The 449 Room, 449 South Broad, Trenton. \$5. (609) 989-7777. **Randy Sutin & Jason Shattil Jazz**, March 17, 3-7 p.m., The Candlelight, 24 Passaic Street, Trenton. (609) 695-9612. **Local Sounds**, March 24, 8 p.m., The 449 Room, 449 South Broad, Trenton. \$5. (609) 989-7777. **Richie Cole & Turk Mauro**, Jazz, April 7, 3-7 p.m., The Candlelight, 24 Passaic Street, Trenton. (609) 695-9612. **John Swana & Sid Simmons Trio jazz**, April 21, 3-7 p.m., The Candlelight, 24 Passaic Street, Trenton. (609) 695-9612. **Yuri Lane, Human Beatbox**, March 16, 8 p.m., Passage Theatre, Mill Hill Playhouse, Front and Montgomery streets, Trenton. \$20. (609) 392-0766; www.passagetheatre.org. (wv)

The College of New Jersey

Composition Seminar, March 7, 12:30 p.m. **Brahms Symposium**, March 7, 8 p.m. **Guitar Studio Recital**, March 8, 8 p.m. **Jazz Band**, March 23, 8 p.m., Kendall Hall Honors Band, March 24, 7:30 p.m., Kendall Hall Flute Choir, March 28, 8 p.m. **ASTA Strings**, March 29, 8 p.m. **Woodwind Quintet**, April 11, 8 p.m. **Piano Studio Recital**, April 15, 4 p.m. **Percussion Ensemble**, April 20, 8 p.m. **Orchestra**, April 21, 8 p.m. **Brass Ensemble**, April 22, 4 p.m. **Collegium Musicum**, April 22, 8 p.m. **Wind Ensemble & Concert Band**, April 26, 8 p.m. **Choir & Women's Ensemble**, April 28, 8 p.m. **Chorale**, April 29, 8 p.m.

The College of New Jersey, 2000 Pennington Road, Ewing. Concerts are in Mayo Concert Hall unless noted. (800) 595-4849; www.tcnj.tix.com. (wv)

Trenton Trinity Cathedral

Watson Highlanders, March 11, 3 p.m. \$15. **African Music**, March 24, 8 p.m. \$20. **Classical Sax Quartet**, April 21, 8 p.m. \$15. **Organ Recital**, May 6, 3 p.m. \$20. **Steven Ford, guitar**, My 19, 8 p.m. \$15. **Trinity Fest**, June 10, 4 p.m. \$15. *Trinity Cathedral, 801 West State Street, Trenton. (609) 392-3805. (wv)*

Westminster Choir College

Opera Theater-Oreste, March 6-9, 8 p.m. \$10-\$15.

Conservatory Faculty Recital: Food for Thought, March 4, 3 p.m. \$5-\$10. **Schola Cantorum**, March 9, 8 p.m. **Kaleidoscope Chamber Series-Schubertiad**, March 11, 3 p.m. \$5-\$10. **Conservatory Flute at the Opera**, March 15, 12:15 p.m., Niles Chapel, 61 Nassau Street, Princeton. **Musick & Dance from George Washington Era**, March 18, 3 p.m. **Symphonic Choir & Festival Orchestra: Verdi Requiem**, March 24, 8 p.m., Princeton University Chapel. \$15-\$45. **Conservatory Showcase**, March 25, 3 p.m., Richardson Auditorium, Alexander Hall, Princeton University. (w) **Music Theater - The Music Man**, March 30-31, 8 p.m.; April 1, 2 p.m., Princeton High School Performing Arts Center. (w) **Schola Cantorum & Greater Trenton Symphony Orchestra**, April 1, 4 p.m., Patriots Theater, Trenton War Memorial, Memorial Drive. \$20-\$40. (609) 984-8400; www.thewarmemorial.com. (w) **Schola Cantorum-Contemporary Masterworks**, April 12, 11:30 a.m. **Chapel Choir-Music of the Seasons**, April 14, 8 p.m. **Choir-Celebrate Spring**, April 15, 3 p.m. **Conservatory Dulcian Reed Trio**, April 19, 12:15 p.m., Niles Chapel, 61 Nassau Street, Princeton. **Kantorei-The Golden Age**, April 20, 8 p.m. **Jubilee Singers**, April 27, 8 p.m. **Williamson Voices**, April 28, 8 p.m. **Conservatory Youth Chorale-Les Misérables (concert version)**, April 29, 3 p.m. \$5-\$10. **Concert Bell Choir**, April 29, 4 p.m. **Fuma Sacra-The Fallen City**, May 5, 8 p.m. **Faith Esham**, May 6, 7:30 p.m. **Conservatory Piano Duo**, May 17, 12:15 p.m., Niles Chapel, 61 Nassau Street, Princeton. **Conservatory's Actors Company, The Prince and the Pauper**, May 18, 6 p.m.; May 19, 3 & 6 p.m.; May 20, 3 p.m. **Cantare e Sonare**, May 20, 3 p.m. \$5-\$10. **Community Orchestra**, May 20, 3 p.m., Princeton High Performing Arts Center. (w) **Community Chorus & Chamber Choir-I'm Gonna Sing**, June 2, 8 p.m. \$5-\$10. **Westminster Choir College of Rider University. Concerts are Princeton Campus, 101 Walnut Lane, except as noted. \$10-\$15. (609) 921-2663; www.rider.edu/arts.*

Outdoor Activities

TDA's Trenton 2 Nite, second Friday, 5 p.m., South Warren & West Lafayette streets, Trenton. (609) 393-8998. **Wednesdays on Warren**, 11:30 a.m., South Warren Street, Trenton. (609) 393-8998. **D&R Canal Fun Run/Walk**, March 31, 9:30 a.m., Washington Crossing State Park, Route 546, Titusville. \$15-\$20. Register (609) 924-2683; www.active.com. **Bunny Chase Weekend**, April 7-8, 1-3:30 p.m., Terhune Orchards, 330 Cold Soil Road, Lawrenceville. (609) 924-2310. **Arbor Day Celebration**, April 27, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Terhune Orchards, 330 Cold Soil Road, Lawrenceville. (609) 924-2310. **Communiversity**, April 28, noon-5 p.m., Nassau Street, Princeton. Co-sponsors Princeton Arts Council & Princeton University. (609) 924-8777; www.artscouncilofprinceton.org. **Pennington Day**, May 19, 7 a.m.-4 p.m., Main Street, Pennington. (609) 737-5188; info@penningtonday.com. **Renaissance Faire**, May 19, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; May 20, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., West Windsor Lions Club. Mercer County Park,

West Windsor. \$3-\$7. (609) 586-2684. **Kite Days**, May 5-6, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Terhune Orchards, 330 Cold Soil Road, Lawrenceville. (609) 924-2310.

Stony Brook Watershed

Maple Sugaring Hike & Café, March 3, 9:30 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. \$12-\$20. **Lunar Eclipse Star Party**, March 3, 5:30 p.m., ages 6 and above. **Nature Reading Group, Downcanyon by Ann Zwinger**, March 6; **The Art of Seeing Things by John Burroughs**; 7 p.m., For high school through adults. **Twilight Star Party**, March 23, 7:30 p.m., Raindate March 24. **Kite Day**, March 10, 10 a.m. \$15-\$18. **In Celebration of Skunk Cabbage at the Cranbury Preserve**, March 17, 10 a.m. **Afterschool Programs** for ages 6-9, 4-5:30 p.m., \$10-\$15.

Stony Brook Millstone Watershed, Buttinger Nature Center, 31 Titusmill Road, Pennington. Register (609) 737-3735; www.thewatershed.org.

Theater

Valentine at Bellevue, March 1-3, 8 p.m.; March 3, 2 p.m., Theatre Intime, Hamilton Murray Theatre, Princeton University Campus. \$12. (609) 258-1742. **My Cousin Rachel**, March 2-April 1, 7 Fri-Sat, 8 p.m.; Sun 2:30 p.m., 5 South Greenwood Avenue, Hopewell. \$26-\$28. (609) 466-2766; www.off-broadstreet.com. **Underneath the Lintel**, March 2, 10, 17, 8 p.m., March 25, 3 p.m., Passage Theatre, Mill Hill Playhouse, Front and Montgomery streets, Trenton. \$20. (609) 392-0766; www.passagetheatre.org. (wv) **Tea for Three: Lady Bird, Pat and Betty**, March 3, 22, 8 p.m., March 11, 18, 3 p.m., Passage Theatre, Mill Hill Playhouse, Front and Montgomery streets, Trenton. \$20. (609) 392-0766; www.passagetheatre.org. (wv) **The Tempest**, March 9-10, 14-16, 8 p.m., Berlind Theater at McCarter, 91 University Place, Princeton. Princeton University Theater & Dance Program. (609) 258-2787. **In The Theatre Concert Reading**, March 23, 8 p.m., Passage Theatre, Mill Hill Playhouse, Front and Montgomery streets, Trenton. (609) 392-0766; www.passagetheatre.org. (wv) **Dreaming Through the Twilight**, March 28, 7:30 p.m., CAPPS, Swig Arts Center, Peddie School, Ward Avenue, Hightstown. (609) 490-7550, www.peddieschool.org/capps. **Under Milk Wood**, March 29-31, April 5-7, 8 p.m.; April 7 2 p.m., Theatre Intime, Hamilton Murray Theatre, Princeton University Campus. \$12. (609) 258-1742. **Boris Godunov**, April 12-14, 8 p.m., April 14, 2 p.m., Berlind Theater, 91 University Place, Princeton. Princeton University Theater and Dance Program. \$15. (609) 258-2787; www.mccarter.org. **The 24-Hour Play Festival**, April 12-14, 8 p.m., Theatre Intime, Hamilton Murray Theatre, Princeton University Campus. \$12. (609) 258-1742. **The Heidi Chronicles**, April 13-14, 20-21, 8 p.m., The Yvonne Theater, Rider University, 2083 Lawrence Road, Lawrenceville. (Preview April 12, 7 p.m. \$4.) \$5-\$10. (609) 896-5303, www.rider.edu/arts. **Paul Watkins reads from *Stingray***, April

18, 7:30 p.m., CAPPS, Swig Arts Center, Peddie School, Ward Avenue, Hightstown. Register (609) 490-7550, www.peddieschool.org/capps.

The Country Wife, April 19-21, April 26-28, 8 p.m.; April 28, 2 p.m., Theatre Intime, Hamilton Murray Theatre, Princeton University Campus. \$12. (609) 258-1742. **The Goodbye Girl**, April 20-June 2, Fri-Sat, 8 p.m.; Sun 2:30 p.m., 5 South Greenwood Avenue, Hopewell. \$26-\$28. (609) 466-2766; www.off-broadstreet.com. **The Deacons**, May 3-27, Thu-Sat, 8 p.m., Sun 3 p.m., Passage Theatre, Mill Hill Playhouse, Front and Montgomery streets, Trenton. \$20-\$25. (609) 392-0766; www.passagetheatre.org. (wv) **Glenrory Glen Ross**, May 31, June 1-2, 8 p.m., Theatre Intime, Hamilton Murray Theatre, Princeton University Campus. \$12. (609) 258-1742.

Kelsey Theatre

Breaking Legs, Like 40 Productions, March 2-11. \$10-\$12. **Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella**, Playful Theatre, March 23-April 1. \$10-\$16. **Woyzeck**, MCCC Drama Students, April 20-29. \$10-\$12. **The Trailer Park Musical**, Pierrot Productions, May 4-13. \$10-\$16.

Kelsey Theatre, Mercer County Community College, 1200 Old Trenton Road, West Windsor. Performances are Fri-Sat 8 p.m., Sun 2 p.m. (609) 570-3333; www.kelseyatmccc.org. (wv)

Kelsey Theatre for Children

Strike Up The Band Children's Concert, March 17. **The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere**, Theatreworks/USA, Apr. 14. **The Three Little Pigs**, Kaleidoscope Theatre, April 28. **Harry, The Dirty Dog**, ArtsPower, May 5. **The Velveteen Rabbit**, The Yardley Players, May 19 & 20. (Also May 18, 7 p.m.) **Winnie the Pooh-The Musical**, June 2-3. (Also June 1, 7 p.m.) **Alexander & the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day**, June 9.

Kelsey Theatre, Mercer County Community College, 1200 Old Trenton Road, West Windsor. Performances 2 & 4 p.m. \$8-\$10. (609) 570-3333; www.kelseyatmccc.org. (wv)

Try-Outs/Opportunities

Summer Camps Open House, March 31, April 28, noon-3 p.m., MCCC, 1200 Old Trenton Road, West Windsor. (609) 586-9446. **Music Composition Contest**, entries due April 1 to VOICES Chorale, PO Box 404, Pennington, NJ 08534. For ages 5-12. (609) 637-9383; www.voiceschorale.org. **Princeton Garden Statesmen Barbershop Chorus**, Tues, 7:30 p.m., seeking men for all voice parts, Pavilions at Forestal Village, 5000 Windrow Drive, Plainsboro. (609) 252-1515; www.menwhosinging.org. **Greater Trenton Choral Society open rehearsals**, Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Abiding Presence Lutheran Church, 2220 Pennington Road, Ewing. (609) 448-1775.

Errata

Winter 2006-7 issue, page 7, **Trenton's Historical Mural**. Last paragraph notes reference to how the Declaration starts out, "We, the people..."; should have been how the preamble to the U.S. Constitution opens.

Spirit of the Jerseys Student Art Contest

In an effort to encourage New Jersey students to express their artistic talents while fostering greater awareness of the state's rich history New Jersey State Office of Historic Sites created the **Spirit of the Jerseys Student Art Contest**.

The contest is open to all New Jersey students grades K-12. Two-dimensional, original artwork no larger than 12"x18" can be a drawing, painting, photograph or digital image and must incorporate one or more sites owned by the State of New Jersey. There is a strict limit of one entry per student and two entries per class. Each entry must be postmarked by April 1 and include a completed entry form, available online.

Awards to winners in seven categories will be announced at the annual **Spirit of the Jerseys State History Fair** on May 5 at Washington Crossing State Park in Titusville.

The New Jersey State History Fair is the only statewide event where visitors can experience four centuries of New Jersey's history in one place. Founded in 2004 as a celebratory event marking the 100th anniversary of New Jersey's State Historic Sites, the fair is now an annual event. Its goal is to engage the public in discovering our state's history in a fun and enjoyable manner. For more information about the fair or contest, please call (609) 965-5220 or visit www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests.

History Issues Convention

History in the Classroom?

History education in New Jersey will be the focus of the 14th Annual History Issues Convention. Secretary of State Nina Mitchell Wells will open the convention. The morning session will focus on whether history is becoming a neglected subject in our state's classrooms, and if so what can be done about it. The keynote speaker will be Professor Theodore K. Rabb of Princeton University, a nationally recognized authority on the value of history education. The morning will also include a panel discussion on this very important subject.

The afternoon will be a fun and informative series of workshops on how schools can cooperate with historic sites and museums in order to enrich the quality of history education. A trolley tour of Trenton's cultural attractions will follow the convention.

The convention is open to historians, teachers, anyone who wants to make sure that future generations learn about the history of our state and nation. It is sponsored by the Advocates for New Jersey History, the New Jersey Council for History Education, and the New Jersey Historical Commission.

The History Issues Conference will be held on March 23 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Trenton War Memorial on Memorial Drive in Trenton. The \$35 cost includes continental breakfast and lunch. For more information please call (609) 984-3458 or visit www.newjerseyhistory.org. (wv)

Four Views of Trenton

For the past 21 years The Contemporary Victorian Townhouse Museum has been sponsoring an annual guided bus tour of Trenton. Guides have included some of the region's most knowledgeable citizens such as Clifford Zink, author of *Spanning the Industrial Age*, John Hatch, architect with Clarke, Caton and Hintz, Betty Holland-George, ex-Council and business woman, Mayor Holland's widow, and Sally Lane, Assistant Commissioner for Natural and Historic Resources with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

Four different tours designed around a central theme are offered each year. Each tour provides a sampling of the assets of New Jersey's Capital City as visitors travel through historic districts, business and industrial areas, and residential neighborhoods. Many of the sites are not regularly open to the public, or will be open exclusively for the tour. Factual commentary and amusing anecdotes about the people and events related to specific sites and areas will be provided by the tour guide or a docent.

Previous tours have highlighted mansions in historic Cadwalader Heights, Berkeley Square and Mill Hill; Trinity Cathedral's crypt, jeweled icons and stained glass Brooklyn Bridge window; Mt. Zion, A.M.E., the city's oldest black church; Trenton Public Library's Trentoniana Collection; Victorian landscape architects' designs at the Psychiatric Hospital, Cadwalader Park and Riverside Cemetery (monument to Civil War General George B. McClellan); Wachovia

Bank's NC Wyeth painting; Delaware and Raritan Canal gatekeeper's house; and Trenton Central High School's Lenox chandeliers.

This year's Four Views of Trenton will focus on the Colonial, Victorian, Industrial and Renaissance eras of Trenton development. Featured sites will include museums, state buildings, refurbished factories outstanding private homes, businesses, as well as historic cemeteries.

The **Many Phases of Trenton** bus tour on April 28 will begin at The Contemporary Victorian Townhouse Museum located at 176 West State Street in Trenton at 8 a.m. After a welcome by Mayor Douglas H. Palmer, and introduction of guides, visitors will board buses to begin the tours, which will conclude at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$45 and include one tour, morning coffee and lunch. For tickets and more information, please call (609) 882-0507 or (609) 392-9727.

New Faces at MCC&HC

Mercer County Division of Culture and Heritage welcomes new staff. Tricia Fagan, Historic Research Specialist, will be developing a history regrant program and exploring ways to assist the county's history and heritage organizations. She can be reached at (609) 989-6418 or tfagan@mercercounty.org. Our new secretary, Lisa Tramo, whose organizational savvy and warm, helpful personality is already proving a tremendous asset can be reached at (609) 278-2712 or ltramo@mercercounty.org.

A Place in Time

Robbins House

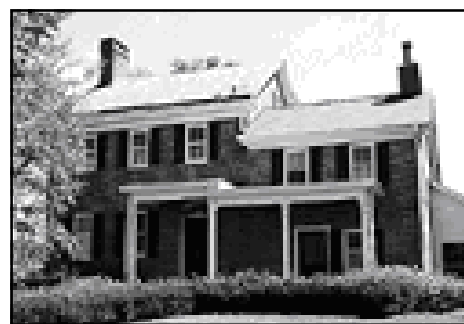
The Robbins House on Hillcrest Farm off Windsor Road is the last surviving early 19th century brick house in Washington Township.

In the 1700s, the King of England indentured about 120 acres, called the Milford Tract, to Moses Robbins. The land then passed through five generations of Robbins family, namesake of Robbinsville. It is believed that David Robbins, who bought the land in 1818, built the house. In 1850 the land passed to his son, Elisha, who handed it down to his son, Milnor in 1900. Lester Robbins, Sr. obtained the land in 1945, then left it to Dr. Lester Robbins, Jr.

Porcelain doorknobs, working skeleton keys, original woodwork in the inside staircase, floors, and doors, two wood stoves in the basement and fireplaces upstairs remain intact. Bathrooms, though, were conspicuously absent from the original structure. A small original smokehouse remains out back and still smells of smoked ham and bacon.

During a 1990s restoration, polished stones, tools, glass bottles, and fireplace equipment were found under the dining room's wooden floor. Artifacts, some dating back several hundred years, may be displayed in a museum set up by the Friends of Washington Township who maintain the property.

Dr. Robbins hopes to donate documents he has to a museum, including old wills, bills, pictures, and newspaper articles. One of the pictures shows the wooden beams from the early 1800s made from tree trunks supporting



the dining room floor. He found handwritten records of work done to the house, dating to the 1800s, property tax receipts from as far back as 1874 and a will written by Daniel Robbins in 1776. It mentions that the country was drafting a constitution at the time.

There is also a tuition receipt from The Peddie School, which Milnor Robbins attended in 1878. A 13-week term cost \$13. Today that would cost \$20,000.

After leaving for college, Dr. Robbins' father rented the property to Henry Beck who wrote part of *The Jersey Midlands* during his stay at the Robbins' house, and mentioned it in the book as an historic structure.

With support from Mercer County and the state Green Acres program and help from Delaware and Raritan Greenway, Washington Township purchased the house and 23 acres in June 2001.



Mercer County Cultural and Heritage Commission
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This Newsletter is made possible in part by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts / Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, and by funds from the Mercer County Executive and the Mercer County Board of Chosen Freeholders